

Amendments to the Specification:

Please amend the following paragraphs beginning after the subject heading that begins on page 1, line 3 of the specification:

This application is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/614,472, filed July 11, 2000, and entitled "CATHETER WITH SIDE ~~SHEATH~~," SHEATH" (abandoned), which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/325,996, filed June 4, 1999, and entitled "CATHETER WITH SIDE ~~SHEATH~~," SHEATH" (abandoned), and which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/455,299, filed December 6, 1999, and entitled "CATHETER WITH ATTACHED FLEXIBLE SIDE SHEATH," (now U.S. Patent No. 6,692,483), the disclosures of which are herein incorporated by reference.

This application also is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/455,299, filed December 6, 1999, and entitled "CATHETER WITH ATTACHED FLEXIBLE SIDE ~~SHEATH~~," SHEATH" (now U.S. Patent No. 6,692,483).